(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

(ग) केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा खादी एवं ग्रामोद्योग आयोग को ग्रामीण उद्योगों के विकास हेतु पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान आवंटित की गई राशि इस प्रकार है :—

वर्ष	(रु. लाख में)
1989–90 . . .	17500
1990–91 . . .	18600
1991–92	19300

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

appeal by Gene Campaign to risist patent on plants

3158. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Gene Campaign has appealed to Government to firmly reject the move by foreign companies to patent our plant varieties and the Genes that give high yield and are disease resistant, as per the newsitem entitled "Appeal to resist patent on plants" which appeared in the Hindustan Times of the 21st June, 1992;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Yes, Sir. Gene Campaign has appealed to the Government in this regard.

(b) In the negotiating group on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs), under the ongoing Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, the developed countries, in general, have been insisting on providing patent protection to inventions relating to living organisms. In the compromise proposal put forward by the Director General of the General Agreement on Trade and Tariff (GATT), it is provided that member countries may, under certain conditions, exclude plants and animals and essentially biological processes for the production of plants and animals, from patentability. However, micro-organisms and non-biological and micro-biological processes for the production of plants and animals cannot be excluded. It is also provided that this position will be reviewed after four years from the entry into force of the TRIPs agreement.

(c) The patents Act, 1970 does not permit patenting of plants or plant varities. There is no proposal to amend the Act.

Customs duty on imported waste paper

3159. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the All India Small Paper Mills Association to abolish customs duty on imported waste paper;

(b) what is the total requirement of waste paper to the mills and the present supply to them;

(c) what are the other demands made in the representation; and

(d) what is Government's reaction thereon and the action proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the Development Council for paper, pulp and allied industries, the following are the projcted demand and availabilty of waste paper:-

(in lakh MT (in lakh MT)

Year	Demand	Indigenous Availability
1990 . . .	4.80	2.80
1995 . . .	7.40	4.9

(c) and (d) Government have been receiving representations from All India Small Paper Mills Association for various reliefs for small paper mills from time to time. The Association has demanded abolition of customs duty on import of waste paper and pulp in its latest representation. Undertaking suitable measures for the sustained growth of paper industry as a whole is a continuous process. The demands made by various paper mills associations, including All India Small Paper Mills Association, are duly considered and the genuine demands are acceded to keeping in view the financial constraints and policies of the Government. During the year 1991, the customs duty on the import of waste paper was reduced from 40 per cent to 20 per cent.

Engaging of staff through private contractors and agencies

3160 SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had issued instructions to Public Sector Units not to engage staff through private contractors and agencies who have been taking cuts and commissions from both sides;

(b) whether it is a fact that this directive is followed in its breach thereby also disregarding Government instructions on employment of SC|ST by the PSUs and various Boards of the Government such as NDDB, all over the country; and

(c) whether Government propose to institute an inquiry in the matter of NDDB as a case study and punish those responsible for it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) The employment of contract labour is governed by the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970. However, the Public Sector Undertakings have been advised that contract labour should not normally be appointed on jobs of a perennial nature and the casual workers also should not be appointed on jobs which are of a permanent nature. These instructions were not directives but only advisory guidelines to Public Sector Undertakings. Boards like the National Dairy Development oBard etc. are not Public Sector Undertaiknqs. The Government instructions on employment of SC|ST are, however, madatory directives which have to be followed by Public Sector Undertakings scrupulosuly.

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration.

Action against Senior Executives of Maruti Udyog Limited

3161. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since contemplated any action against four senior executives of Maruti Udyog Limited who are facing corruption charges;

(b) whether the said senior executives of Maruti Udyog Limited have made out of turn allotment to some consumers at pre-budget prices after the budget had been presented;

(c) if so, whether the C.B.I. has also registered a case against them; and

(d) if so, what further action Government propose to take against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) to (d) CBI has registered a case against four senior executives of Maruti Udyog Limited (MUL) regarding allegation of unauthorised sale of 13 Maruti cars to customers at pre-budget prices. According to MUL, the sales were made to customers who had paid in foreign exchange, or had allotments under the Manufacturers' Quota in accordance with the Company's sales policy. These officers are not appointed by Government. Action against them, if any, will depend upon the outcome of the case registered by CBI.